

## **The Business Experts Bureau Great Business Idea - Tuesday 7 September 2010**

Considering today the area of threat protection.

In simple terms a virus is a piece of code or software maliciously written designed to change what your computer does and how it behaves. Some are just nuisance but many will pinch sensitive information from your hard drive and at worst completely destroy it. Viruses unfortunately are a fact of life so all we can do is protect ourselves from their effect by implementing strategies to mitigate their effects.

Essentially this is understanding what your business technology needs are, blocking all other services, understanding the points of infection and ensuring you have the correct protection in place at these points.

Audit everything in your business computing system that is a way of bringing files into your network and make sure you have effective blocks and protection at all these possible infection points.

Other threats include things like adware, spyware and malware all having the potential to slow down your system, crashing it and impacting your ability to do business. Regular network scans are mandatory as well ensuring antivirus and firewalls are in place scanning the points of entry that your business uses.

There is software that can take care of all of this, however caution and expert help is advisable. Some of these programs that cover every possible scenario and load into memory automatically can drastically slow your computer down. You really need to think about threat protection as a total solution that is designed around your business activity.

You may be a business with a high level of on-line selling with large volumes of email traffic where having an email scanner is the most important protection element, then a decision is made as to whether you have this scanned in your network or outside before it gets to your network to reduce the load on your server resources.

Any good threat protection system should also have an ongoing service component. You must be able to contact someone locally and quickly and get help when things go wrong.

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